کر رہے ہیں۔ دیکھئے پردھان منتری جی سے گزارش ہے کہ آپ پردھان منتری ہیں۔ میں احترام کرتا ہوں۔ پردھان منتری نے جتنا کچھ "ریگنگ" کے سمبندھ میں کہا ہے۔۔۔ "مداخلت"۔۔۔]

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, has the Resolution been passed? If it had been passed, then, announce it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Mr. Gupta, please have some patience. Listen to him.

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: मैं इस वक्त कोई बात कर रहा हूं अगर आप अहकामात करेंगे, सादिर करेंगे, हम भी कर सकते हैं, कोई दिक्कत नहीं है उसमें। मैं सिर्फ अर्ज कर रहा हूं। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो कुछ कहा उसके लिए शुक्रिया। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने ज्यादा जिस सवाल को डील किया वह रिगिंग का सवाल है। मेरा बुनियादी तौर पर जो सवाल है वह यह कि मुसलमान बी॰जे॰पी॰ के लिए वोट नहीं दे सकते हैं इसलिए यकीनन रिगिंग हुआ है और इस पर एतराज था। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने उस पर कम रोशनी डाली है। लिहाजा इतनी इजाजत हमें जरूर दीजिए कि हम इस हिस्से के गृह मंत्री के बयान के खिलाफ एतराज कर सकें। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अपने गृह मंत्री को एडमोनिश नहीं किया। इस प्रकार के फिजूल स्टेटमेंट के खिलाफ हम वाक-आउट करते हैं।

(कुछ माननीय सदस्य सदन से उठकर चले गये)

†[شری سکندر بخت: میں اسوقت کوئی بات کر رہا ہوں اگر آپ احکامات کریں گے۔ صادر کریں گے۔ ہم بھی کر سکتے ہیں۔ کوئی دقت نہیں ہے اسمیں۔ میں صرف عرض کر رہا ہوں۔ پردھان منتری جی نے جو کچھ کہا اسکے لئے شکریہ۔ پردھان منتری جی نے جو زیادہ

†[]Transliteration in Arabic script.

جس سوال کو ڈیل کیا وہ "ریگنگ" کا سوال ہے۔ میرا بنیادی طور پر جو سوال ہے وہ یہ کہ مسلمان بی۔جے۔پی۔ کیلئے ووٹ نہیں دے سکتے ہیں اسلئے یقیناً "ریگنگ" ہوا ہے اور اس پر اعتراض تھا۔ پردھان منتری جی نے اس پر کم روشنی ڈالی ہے۔ لہٰذا اتنی اجازت ہمیں ضرور دیجئے کہ ہم اس حصے پر گرہ منتری جی کے بیان کے خلاف اعتراض کر سکیں۔ پردھان منتری جی نے اپنے گرہ منتری جی کو "ایڈمونش" نہیں کیا۔ اس پر کارے فضول اسٹیٹمنٹ کے خلاف ہم واک آؤٹ کرتے ہیں:

"کچھ معزز ممبران ایوان سے اٹھکر چلے گئے"]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER—

Regarding-Aircraft Accident near Kullu on 11th July, 1996

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Now, there is a statement by the Civil Aviation Minister, Shri C.M. Ibrahim regarding an aircraft accident near Kulu on the 11th July, 1996. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री एस॰एस॰ अहलुवालिया (बिहार): मैडम पहले आप सबसे सहमति ले लें, हाउस चलायेंगे कि नहीं? **..(व्यवधान)**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Honourable Members, would you like to sit beyond 6 o'clock? *..(Interruptions)* ... Or would you like to sit up to 6 o'clock? *..(Interruptions)* ...Mantri Ji, will you yield for a minute? I want to take the sense of the House. Honourable Members, would you like to sit beyond 6 o'clock?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): The Civil Aviation Minister would like to make a statement regarding an air crash near Kulu. Now, can we go ahead?

SYED SIBTEY RAZI (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, I have a submission to make. Since this is a very important matter, we want to seek clarifications tomorrow. Though the private airlines are working in this country, they are not abiding by the rules. The very lives of passengers are involved. So, my submission would be let the Minister lay down a copy of his statement on the Table of the House now and clarifications part should be taken up tomorrow or after some time or whenever it is convenient to the House because we want to seek certain clarifications from the Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): I agree with what you have said. Let the Minister lay a copy of his statement on the Table of the House and clarifications would be taken up tomorrow. Now, is that okay? Mr. Ahluwalia, is that okay?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Okay, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Yes, Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): Madam, as I had promised in the House on 11.7.96, further details regarding the air crash of Archana Airways aircraft are now available and I would like to inform the House about the same.

The aircraft L-410 type belonging to Archana Airways crashed near village Kanda, Distt. Mandi in Himachal Pradesh, about 30 kms. south of Bhuntar airport on 11.7.1996. The aircraft hit a tree on top of the hill and then crashed into a house killing all the 9 persons, on board and injuring 3 on the ground. The aircraft caught fire and was completely destroyed.

Search and rescue parties from Indian Air Force Stations, Chandigarh, Distt. Administration of Mandi and senior Aerodrome Officer of Bhuntar Airport immediately left for the crash site and located wrechage of aircraft and mortal remains of the persons on board. All the 9 bodies were charred.

The bodies of all the 9 victims were identified and brought from the crash site to Kullu on 11.7.1996 by 9 p.m. After completion of postmortem formalities next day, dead bodies were handed over to the next of kin. In respect of three Japanese passengers, their relatives reached Delhi on the 14th July and their bodies were cremated on the 15th July.

The aircraft was under the command of Capt. V.M. Malik with Capt. S. Gupta as Co-pilot. Capt. Malik had a total flying experience of about 8,800 hours with 1,600 hours as pilot-in-command, on this type of aircraft. Capt. S. Gupta had a total experience of about 1,8000 hours with 876 hours as co-pilot on this type of aircraft.

The aircraft was purchased new by M/s. Archana Airways in 1994 and had logged about 3300 hours of flying. The aircraft was last subjected to a major check on 24.6.1996. There was no reported snag in the aircraft when it departed from Delhi on 11th July.

Preliminary investigation into the cause of the accident has been initiated by the DGCA and director of Air Safety has been appointed as the Inspector of Accidents under Rule 71 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937. The Inspector of Accidents along with an Aviation specialist doctor left for the site of the crash on the day of the accident. Both the flight recorders have been recovered and brought to Delhi for decoding. Inspection of the accident site indicated that the aircraft hit a hill (approx. 8000 ft. high) about 20 ft. below the peak. Weather at the accident site was cloudy. Further investigation is in progress.

Much as the accident is a matter of regret and deep sorrow for us all, I would like to take this opportunity of assuring the House that there has never been, nor will there ever be, any compromise with air safety in domestic or international air transport operations. Every aircraft operating in the country is subjected to the most stringent airworthiness checks and our system of regulation and control is as comprehensive as can be.

Even so, and after considering all aspects of the matter, Government have appointed Air Marshal (Retd.) S.S. Ramdas, former Chairman and Managing Director of Indian Airlines, as the Court of Inquiry under Rule 75 of Aircraft Rules, 1937 to carry out the formal investigations into the accident. The Court of Inquiry has been specifically requested to give immediate findings on whether operations to Bhuntar airport have any technical shortcomings and if so, to suggest remedial measures thereof, particularly in adverse weather conditions.

I would also like to inform the Hon'ble Members that I have directed a 100% safety audit of every aircraft operating in the private sector.

This is being done in addition to the mandatory checks which are already in operation to ensure flight safety in domestic operations.

As the Hon'ble Members are aware there has been tremendous growth in the air transport industry after its demonopolisation. Even under this rapid expansion process, the air safety aspect has not been allowed to be compromised. Procedures involing air safety are reviewed from time to time in consultation with the operators and necessary preventive steps are taken. I wish to convey to this House that the Ministry of Civil Aviation and its organisations are making every possible effort to ensure safe air transportation in the country and there is no cause for concern in the matter.

I will conclude by conveying our heartfelt condolences and deep sympathies for the Members of the bereaved families.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): We will take up the clarifications tomorrow. Before we adjourn for the day, if you permit, the Finance Minister would like to make *Suo motu* statement. He has been waiting in the House....*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: We have a right to seek clarifications.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Yes That can be had tomorrow.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Tomorrow, we have the short-duration discussion. *(Interruptions)*.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): It will take only half a minute. *(Interruptions)*.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Mr. Ahluwalia, the statement has been made in the Lok Sabha. He has to make it in the Rajya Sabha also. *(Interruptions)*.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Interim Relief to Central Government Employees

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Madam Vice-Chairman, I am pleased to inform the House that based on our discussions with the Pay Commission and representatives of the staff side, we have requested the Pay Commission to consider whether another instalment of interim relief may be granted to the Central Government employees and, if so, to make suitable recommendations in this regard. Any amount of interim relief recommended by the Pay Commission and accepted by the Government will be fully adjusted against and subsumed in